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## What's the Secret of the Green Scorpion? UD Arts Series Features Korean Dance on Tour

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UNIVERSITY of



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## NEWS RELEASE

### WHAT'S THE SECRET OF THE GREEN SCORPION? UD ARTS SERIES FEATURES KOREAN DANCE ON TOUR

DAYTON, Ohio — The dance interpretations for an upcoming performance at the University of Dayton range from the life cycle of a scorpion to childhood memories of summer in Korea to the frustrations of speaking a new language to the philosophy of life using Buddhist shadow puppetry images.

Those four stories will be told using contemporary Korean dance and music as well as the spoken word during the Korean Dance on Tour performance at 8 p.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 10, at the Kennedy Union Boll Theatre. The event is the third performance of the 1999-2000 UD Arts Series season.

General admission tickets cost \$10 and are available by calling the Kennedy Union box office at (937) 229-2545.

The concert will begin with "The 11th Shadow," a dance choreographed by Ae-soon Ahn, who has been with the Korean Contemporary Dance Company since 1983. Her dance is intended to fill an empty, unspoken part of an ancient Korean shadow puppet play, "Mansokjungnori," that is performed to celebrate the advent of Buddhism in Korea in the early 1900s. The title refers to the shadow of a Buddhist monk who lives an eternal life but leaves his shadow behind on Earth. "The 11th Shadow" will be the longest dance of the performance and will include six dancers and two shadow puppeteers.

The second dance, "If My Words Were Boots," is choreographed by Claire Porter and focuses on the difficulty of communicating in a new language. The dance has been performed at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C., as well as at the Columbia Teachers College in New

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York City and at Boston College. Porter has received several National Endowment for the Arts choreography fellowships and teaches at Columbia Teachers College and Connecticut College.

The life cycle of a scorpion, which involves a female scorpion eating the male scorpion after mating, will be the focus of the third dance, "Secrets of the Green Scorpion." Ho-bin Park, who graduated from the Seoul Institute of the Arts in 1986 and was recognized as the "Best Young Choreographer in Korea" in 1994, choreographed the dance, which focuses on the concept of maternity and the origins of the cycle of creation. Park will perform with Sung-joo Joh.

The final dance, "A Day in Summer," is choreographed and will be performed by In-young Sohn, who also performs "If My Words Were Boots." Sohn was a traditional dancer with the Korean National Dance Company from 1985 to 1991. She describes the dance as "a poetic picture of my childhood during summer in Korea."

The remaining performances of the UD Arts Series season are Lilith on Saturday, Dec. 11; Anonymous 4 on Thursday, Jan 20; Larissa Sokoloff on Wednesday, Feb. 9; Corigliano Quartet on Thursday, March 23; and Viva Quetzal on Wednesday, April 12. For more information, call Barbra Lupp in the Arts Series office at (937) 229-2787.

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For media interviews or more information about Korean Dance on Tour, call **N. Scott Robinson**, manager, at (330) 673-0821 or e-mail [sonrob@msn.com](mailto:sonrob@msn.com).